H. R. 451

To expand and enhance post-baccalaureate opportunities at Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

January 12, 2007

Mr. Hinojosa (for himself, Mr. Gutierrez, Mr. Holt, Mr. Grijalva, Mr. Ortiz, Mr. Fortuño, Mr. Schiff, Mr. Scott of Virginia, Mrs. Davis of California, Mr. Hare, Mr. Cuellar, Mr. Reyes, Mr. Gonzalez, Mr. Davis of Illinois, Mr. Serrano, Mr. Pastor, Mrs. Capps, Mrs. Napolitano, Mr. Baca, Mr. Sires, Mr. Costa, Ms. Linda T. Sánchez of California, Mr. Becerra, Ms. Roybal-Allard, Ms. Solis, Mr. Cardoza, Ms. Velázquez, Mr. Rodriguez, and Ms. Loretta Sanchez of California) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To expand and enhance post-baccalaureate opportunities at Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and for other purposes.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
- 3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
- 4 This Act may be cited as the "Next Generation His-
- 5 panic-Serving Institutions Act".

1	SEC. 2. POSTBACCALAUREATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR HIS-
2	PANIC AMERICANS.
3	(a) Establishment of Program.—Title V of the
4	Higher Education Act is amended—
5	(1) by redesignating part B as part C;
6	(2) by redesignating section 511 through 518
7	as sections 521 through 528, respectively; and
8	(3) inserting after section 505 (20 U.S.C.
9	1101d) the following new part:
10	"PART B—PROMOTING POSTBACCALAUREATE
11	OPPORTUNITIES FOR HISPANIC AMERICANS
12	"SEC. 511. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.
13	"(a) Findings.—Congress finds the following:
14	"(1) According to the United States Census, by
15	the year 2050 one in four Americans will be of His-
16	panie origin.
17	"(2) Despite the dramatic increase in the His-
18	panic population in the United States, the National
19	Center for Education Statistics reported that in
20	1999, Hispanics accounted for only 4 percent of the
21	master's degrees, 3 percent of the doctor's degrees,
22	and 5 percent of first-professional degrees awarded
23	in the United States.
24	"(3) Although Hispanics constitute 10 percent
25	of the college enrollment in the United States, they

- 1 comprise only 3 percent of instructional faculty in 2 colleges and universities.
- "(4) The future capacity for research and advanced study in the United States will require increasing the number of Hispanics pursuing postbaccalaureate studies.
 - "(5) Hispanic-serving institutions are leading the nation in increasing the number of Hispanics attaining graduate and professional degrees.
 - "(6) Among Hispanics who received master's degrees in 1999–2000, 25 percent earned them at Hispanic-serving institutions.
 - "(7) Between 1991 and 2000, the number of Hispanic students earning master's degrees at Hispanic-serving institutions grew 136 percent, the number receiving doctor's degrees grew by 85 percent, and the number earning first-professional degrees grew by 47 percent.
 - "(8) It is in the National interest to expand the capacity of Hispanic-serving institutions to offer graduate and professional degree programs.
- 22 "(b) Purposes.—The purposes of this part are—
- 23 "(1) to expand postbaccalaureate educational 24 opportunities for, and improve the academic attain-25 ment of, Hispanic students; and

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- "(2) 1 enhance the to expand and 2 postbaccalaureate academic offerings, program quality, that are educating the majority of Hispanic col-3 4 lege students and helping large numbers of Hispanic 5 students and other low-income individuals complete 6 postsecondary degrees. 7 "SEC. 512. PROGRAM AUTHORITY AND ELIGIBILITY. 8 "(a) Program Authorized.—Subject to the availability of funds appropriated to carry out this part, the 10 Secretary shall award competitive grants to Hispanic-serving institutions that offer postbaccalaureate certifications 11 12 or degrees. 13 "(b) ELIGIBILITY.—For the purposes of this part, an 14 'eligible institution' means an institution of higher edu-15 cation that— "(1) is an eligible institution under section 502; 16 17 and 18 "(2) offers a postbaccalaureate certificate or de-19 gree granting program. 20 "SEC. 513. AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES. 21 "Grants awarded under this part shall be used for 22 one or more of the following activities:
- 23 "(1) Purchase, rental, or lease of scientific or 24 laboratory equipment for educational purposes, in-

- 1 "(2) Construction, maintenance, renovation, 2 and improvement in classroom, library, laboratory, 3 and other instructional facilities, including purchase 4 or rental of telecommunications technology equip-5 ment or services.
 - "(3) Purchase of library books, periodicals, technical and other scientific journals, microfilm, microfiche, and other educational materials, including telecommunications program materials.
 - "(4) Support for needy postbaccalaureate students including outreach, academic support services, mentoring, scholarships, fellowships, and other financial assistance to permit the enrollment of such students in postbaccalaureate certificate and degree granting programs.
 - "(5) Support of faculty exchanges, faculty development, faculty research, curriculum development, and academic instruction.
 - "(6) Creating or improving facilities for Internet or other distance learning academic instruction capabilities, including purchase or rental of telecommunications technology equipment or services.
 - "(7) Collaboration with other institutions of higher education to expand postbaccalaureate certificate and degree offerings.

- 1 "(8) Other activities proposed in the application 2 submitted pursuant to section 514 that—
- 3 "(A) contribute to carrying out the pur-
- 4 poses of this part; and
- 5 "(B) are approved by the Secretary as part
- of the review and acceptance of such applica-
- 7 tion.

8 "SEC. 514. APPLICATION AND DURATION.

- 9 "(a) APPLICATION.—Any eligible institution may
- 10 apply for a grant under this part by submitting an applica-
- 11 tion to the Secretary at such time and in such manner
- 12 as determined by the Secretary. Such application shall
- 13 demonstrate how the grant funds will be used to improve
- 14 postbaccalaureate education opportunities for Hispanic
- 15 and low-income students and will lead to greater financial
- 16 independence.
- 17 "(b) Duration.—Grants under this part shall be
- 18 awarded for a period not to exceed 5 years.
- 19 "(c) Limitation.—The Secretary shall not award
- 20 more than 1 grant under this part in any fiscal year to
- 21 any Hispanic-serving institution.".
- 22 (b) Cooperative Arrangements.—Section 524 of
- 23 such Act (as redesignated by subsection (a)(2)) (20 U.S.C.
- 24 1103c) is amended by inserting "and section 513" after
- 25 "section 503".

(c) Authorization of Appropriations.—Sub-1 section (a) of section 528 of such Act (as redesignated by subsection (a)(2)) (20 U.S.C. 1103g) is amended to read as follows: 5 "(a) Authorizations.— "(1) PART A.—There are authorized to be ap-6 7 propriated to carry out part A of this title \$175,000,000 for fiscal year 2008 and such sums as 8 may be necessary for each of the 4 succeeding fiscal 9 10 years. "(2) Part B.—There are authorized to be ap-11 propriated to carry out part B of this title 12 13 \$125,000,000 for fiscal year 2008 and such sums as may be necessary for each of the 4 succeeding fiscal 14 15 years.".

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